

Message Text

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ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 IO-13 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15

USIA-15 OMB-01 RSR-01 /108 W
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R 310755Z JUL 73

FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9235

INFO USINT ALGIERS

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L SEOUL 5012

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, KS, KN

SUBJECT: NON-ALIGNED NATIONS CONFERENCE

SUMMARY: MOFA HAS EXPRESSED CONCERN TO US REGARDING THE NON-ALIGNED NATIONS CONFERENCE TO BE HELD IN ALGIERS IN EARLY SEPTEMBER. THERE IS A POSSIBILITY THAT NORTH KOREA COULD USE THE CONFERENCE, WHICH COMES IMMEDIATELY BEFORE THE OPENING OF THE UNGA, TO GAIN SUPPORT FOR ITS UN POSITION. ROKG IS ANXIOUS TO ASCERTAIN NORTH KOREAN INTENTIONS REGARDING THE CONFERENCE IN ORDER TO DEVELOP EFFECTIVE COUNTER-MEASURES. END SUMMARY.

1. THERE HAVE BEEN SOME INDICATIONS THAT PYONGYANG INTENDS TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS YEAR'S CONFERENCE OF NON-ALIGNED NATIONS. MOFA HAS RECEIVED INFORMATION FROM TUNISIAN FONMIN MASMOUDI TO EFFECT NORTH KOREA MAY APPLY FOR MEMBERSHIP OR OBSERVER STATUS.

2. GIVEN SEATING OF GRUNK AND PRG AT LAST YEAR'S SESSION, MOFA CANNOT RULE OUT POSSIBILITY THAT NORTH KOREA COULD SUCCEED IN BECOMING AT LEAST AN OBSERVER THIS YEAR. MOREOVER, EVEN WITHOUT BEING
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OFFICIALLY PRESENT AT THE CONFERENCE, NORTH KOREA

COULD HAVE ITS FRIENDS OFFER RESOLUTIONS DAMAGING TO ROK AND US INTERESTS. IN MOFA ESTIMATE, MOST DAMAGING RESOLUTION WOULD BE ONE CALLING FOR REMOVAL OF UNC AND US FORCES FROM SOUTH KOREA. THERE IS ALSO LESSER POSSIBILITY THAT CONFERENCE WOULD PRODUCE RESOLUTION OBLIGING CONFERENCE MEMBERS TO SUPPORT UN RESOLUTIONS DISMANTLING UNCURK AND UNC OR OTHERWISE SUPPORTING NORTH KOREAN POSITION IN UN.

3. UNTIL IT KNOWS WHAT THE NORTH KOREANS INTENTIONS ARE, MOFA IS MAKING ONLY GENERAL PLANS OF ITS OWN. HOWEVER, MOFA MIDDLE EAST DIVISION CHIEF CHONG, WHO IS RESPONSIBLE FOR CONTINGENCY PLANNING FOR THE CONFERENCE, TOLD EMBOFF JULY 30 THAT ROKG LIKELY WILL NOT ATTEMPT TO SEND AN OBSERVER. INSTEAD ROK WILL WORK THROUGH ITS FRIENDS AMONG THE NON-ALIGNED NATIONS AS IT DID LAST YEAR IN GEORGETOWN. EUROPEAN AND AFRICAN BUREAU DIRECTOR KIM CH'ANG-HUN HAS SAID THERE ARE 27 "FRIENDS" OF ROK WHO WILL ATTEND.

4. REGARDING POSSIBLE ADMISSION OF NORTH KOREANS ROK'S FRIENDS WILL ARGUE THAT NORTH KOREA IS NOT NON-ALIGNED, IN VIEW OF ITS TREATY TIES WITH USSR AND PRC.

5. MOFA IS CONCERNED ABOUT ANY ACTIONS AFFECTING KOREA WHICH MIGHT COME OUT OF NON-ALIGNED CONFERENCE. HOWEVER, MOFA WORKING LEVEL AS OF NOW APPEARS REASONABLY HOPEFUL OF BEING ABLE TO CONTAIN ANY MAJOR ANTI-ROK/US INITIATIVE ON PART NORTH KOREA'S FRIENDS.

6. WOULD APPRECIATE ANY DEPARTMENT VIEWS WHICH WE COULD PASS TO MOFA RE NON-ALIGNED CONFERENCE.
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